And skip when thou point'st out ? Will the cold
brook.
Candied with ice, caudle thy morning taste, To cure thy o'er-night's surfeit? call the creatures,—
Whose naked natures live in all the spite Of wreakful heaven ; whose bare unhoused trunks, To the conflicting elements expos'd, Answer mere nature[5], —bid them flatter thee ; O! thou shalt find—

TIM. A fool of thee : Depart.

APEM. I love thee better now than e'er I did.

TIM. I hate thee worse.

APEM. Why ?

TIM, Thou flatter'st misery.

APEM. I flatter not; but say, thou art a caitiff.

TIM. Why dost thou seek me out ?

APEM. To vex thee[6].

TIM. Always a villain's office, or a fool's. Dost please thyself in't ?

APEM. Ay.

TIM. What! a knave too[7] ?

APEM. If thou didst put this sour-cold habit on To castigate thy pride, 'twere well: but thou

5 Answer MERE NATURE,] So, in King Lear, Act II. Sc. III.:

" And with presented nakedness
outface '* The winds," &c.

STEEVENS.

6 To vex thee.] As the measure is here imperfect, we may suppose* with Sir Thomas Hanmer, our author to have written :

" *Only to* vex thee." STEEVENS.

7 What! a KNAVE too?] Timon had just called Apemantus *jfool,* In consequence of what he had known of him by former acquaintance ; but when Apemantus tells him that he comes *to •vex him,* Timon determines that to *vex* is either *the office of a villain or a jfbol,*- that *to vex by design* is *villainy* to vex without design* isjfo %. He then properly asks Apemantus whether he takes delight in *vexing,* and when he answers, *yes,* Timon replies,—" What! a knave too ? " I before only knew thee to be a *jbol,* but now I find thee likewise a *knave.* JOHNSON*